

**ARIZONA TRAUMA SYSTEM
QUALITY ASSURANCE AND SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT (AZTQ) COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**September 18, 2008
150 North 18th Avenue, Conference Room 540-A**

Members Present:

Charles Allen (Chairman)
Jeff Farkas
Linda Worthy
Michelle Ziemba
Pam Goslar
Debbie Johnston
*Kelly Silberschlag

Bill Ashland
Richard Porter
Michelle Guadnola
Philip Johnson
Ann Hoover
Charlann Staab
*Jane Burney

Members Absent:

Victor Garcia
Brenda Sutton
Marcia Barry
Scott Petersen

I. CALL TO ORDER

Charles Allen, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the Arizona Trauma System Quality Assurance and System Improvement Committee to order at 8:40 a.m. A quorum was present. Kelly Silberschlag and Jane Burney participated by conference call.

II. DISCUSSION and Action on April 17, 2008 Minutes

A motion was made by Pam Goslar and seconded by Richard Porter to approve the minutes of April 17, 2008 as presented. **Motion carried.**

III. ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES ITEMS:

A. Bureau Chief – Terry Mullins

1. New Director

- Susan Gerard has resigned from the Department of Health Services
- January Contreras is the interim Director for the Department

2. Deputy Director

- Will Humble, Assistant Director for the Department of Health Services was promoted to Deputy Director.

3. Data In Action

- The Bureau of EMS and Trauma System will begin a new educational offering called Data In Action.
 - The inaugural meeting will follow the September 19, 2008 EMS Council meeting at 12:00 noon in room 540A.
 - Subsequent meetings will be held after EMS Council meetings.
 - These meetings are designed to:
 - Show and tell your agencies new data collection capability.
 - Highlight best practices using data to evaluate agency (or region) process and outcomes.
 - Provide instruction to agencies that wish to implement a data collection and quality assurance program.

B. Trauma System Section Chief – Vicki Conditt

1. Road Show – Update

- We have conducted three or four road shows and we have road shows currently scheduled for Wickenburg and Yavapai Regional - West.

2. Trauma Center Designation – Update

- Summit Healthcare Regional Medical Center has become our first designated Level IV trauma center thanks to the perseverance and passion of Phil Johnson. A press release was being issued by the Department today.
- Dr. Johnson stated that he would try to keep as much trauma financial data as possible over the next six months. He may be able to provide information to us that we can use to help persuade other hospitals to come on board.
- We have received three new applications for Level IV Designation - Banner Page Hospital, Cobre Valley Community Hospital (Globe) and Northern Cochise Community Hospital (Willcox).
- We will be conducting the site surveys over the next couple of months.
- We are working with a number of other hospitals that have expressed interest in designation as Level II and Level III.

3. 2008 STAB Annual Report

- Vicki Conditt announced that a copy of the 2008 Annual Report was included in the member packets and asked if there were any suggestions regarding data compilation for next year. The Report is being presented to STAB this morning for approval before sending to the Director.
- Pam Goslar recommended doing quality assurance on the e-coding and questioned whether the total numbers of ATV-related incidents are accurate.
- Anita Ray Ng stated that we don't have a good way to check the accuracy of the codes and this was discussed at the last TRUG meeting. The ICD-9 training fell through so we are investigating other methods of improving the coding.

Item: 2008 STAB Annual Report
Follow Up: State Trauma Advisory Board - Approval
When: September 18, 2008
Who: Vicki Conditt

4. Golden Hour Reports

- We hope to expand on the Golden Hour Report in the future (ISS, GCS, etc).
- Our Biostatistician, Vatsal Chikani, pulled data by county to develop this table.

C. Data and Quality Assurance Section – Joel Bunis

1. Update/Discussion

- We are in the process of developing a prehospital (EMS) database.
- The focus is on all prehospital illnesses and injuries that can be affected by analyzing and evaluating data to promote change in the prehospital environment and ultimately improve patient outcomes using evidence-based practices.
- The goal is to make data more useful in daily practice.
- Joel Bunis and Krista Anheluk are learning the trauma database.
- This is part of a larger program called the Premier EMS Agency Designation.

- We should be able to receive reports back to be used to apply for grant funding and agencies can take to their community groups and councils.
- It is voluntary and would be extremely difficult to put into rule.
- We have representatives all across the state.
- There are more medium-sized agencies that are fire-based and not local - Yuma, PMT, and one rural fire district.
- The hope is that once data is produced and the reports are seen as useful, other agencies will want to become involved.
- Non-punitive and get meaningful data.
- We are looking to build up on the success we have had with the SHARE database - where you seek voluntary participation from individuals. The payback is that contributors get their data compared to other agencies (blinded and in aggregate form).

2. Brainstorming – Additional Reporting

- Staff asked members to be thinking of other data reporting you would like to see in the future

IV. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

A. 2009 Committee Meeting Schedule

- There is a conflict with the January 15, 2009 meeting date on the 2009 schedule due to the annual Arizona Fire Districts Association meeting.
- Vicki Conditt asked the committee if they were aware of any conflicts if the meeting date is changed to January 22, 2009. Since there were no apparent conflicts it was determined that the January meeting would be on the 22nd.
- Due to similar scheduling conflicts, EMS Council may be moved to January 19 or 20, 2009.

Item: 2009 Committee Meeting Schedule
Follow Up: State Trauma Advisory Board - Approval
When: September 18, 2008
Who: Vicki Conditt

B. Arizona State Trauma Registry – Updates

1. TRUG Update

- We are working with hospitals on ASTR blank field checks to identify any import-export problems resulting from our 2008 database changes. The data validation tool will be developed with the help of the software vendor.
- The Trauma Registry Users Group (TRUG) met on August 26th for our quarterly meeting.
- ADHS also hosted an advanced database customization training on September 8 – 9. Hospital and ADHS staff attended this training.

2. Updated ASTR Data Submission Tracking Spreadsheet

- Members were provided with two tables tracking hospital trauma data submission for 2007 and partial 2008.

- It was recommended that ADHS add a footnote to ASTR 2008 reports regarding the change in the inclusion criteria as this has resulted in an increase in the overall number of trauma patients for all facilities.

3. Performance Measures Report

- At a previous meeting, AZTQ-STAB requested several Performance Measure reports. These reports were run on the 2007 data and are included in the packets.
- Anita asked the committee what additional data the committee would like to see for these types of reports.

Recommendations for changes to reports:

- LOS > 6 Hours in Referring Facility
Break down the referring facility length of stay into shorter intervals: 1 to 2, 2 to 4, and 4 to 6 hours.
Review specifics on patients with ISS > 9. Future reports show two breakouts: ISS < 9 and ISS > 9.
Look at the ED disposition from the TC following transfer
Look at outliers
- More than 1 interfacility transfer before arrival to TC
Characterize sending facilities (US, Mexico) and Type of facility
- Death in Non-Level I and > 24 hour LOS
Look at deaths in detail.
Trend these.
Present at AZTQ/STAB for review
- Open Fractures - Injury to Wash Out > 8 hours
Benchmark over time - no longer the standard
2007 dataset did not capture procedure time
2008 dataset will show procedure time so this can be trended

The overall purpose of these particular reports, as decided on in 2006, was to look at system issues.

Use of Paralytic and Prehospital Intubation are to be used to evaluate RSI in Arizona:

- Joel Bunis, Bentley Bobrow and Anita Ray Ng will work together to further refine the reports.

C. Trauma Registry Inclusion Criteria – Specific Scenarios

- There was a change in the inclusion criteria for 2008.
- Trauma registrars have come up with several questions regarding the new inclusion criteria and whether the rulemaking committee intended for certain types of patients to be included in the registry.
- It was recommended that ADHS present Item #IV. C – “Specific Scenarios –

Meet Inclusion Criteria for ASTR?” to TRUG for review and decision.

Item: #IV. C – Specific Scenarios – Meet Inclusion Criteria for ASTR
Follow Up: Trauma Users Group (TRUG)
When: Next Meeting – October 23, 2008
Who: Anita Ray Ng

***D. ASTR Data Reports**

1. Standard Public Report

- Members were provided with a copy of the 2007 ASTR Standard Public Report.

V. CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

- Terry Mullins thanked TRUG and the staff for all their hard work putting together the 2008 Annual Report.
- Charles Allen provided a brief update on Dr. Tom Wachtel’s condition and reported that he is making good progress in his recovery.

VI. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

The next AZTQ meeting will be held on November 6, 2008.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Approved by: AZTQ Committee

Date: November 6, 2008